

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ISLAMA 05216 091629Z

51

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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P 091105Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 502

INFO AMEMBASSY KABUL PRIORITY

S E C R E T ISLAMABAD 5216

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PK, AF

SUBJECT: PAK/AFGHAN PROPAGANDA

REF: ISLAMABAD 4914; KABUL 3424

1. IN A PRE-DINNER CONVERSATION WITH BHUTTO LAST NIGHT HE TOLD ME THAT AGREEMENT HAD BEEN REACHED WITH THE AFGHANS THAT PROPAGANDA CONTAINING PERSONAL ATTACKS ON NATIONAL LEADERS ON BOTH SIDES WOULD BE STOPPED EFFECTIVE JUNE 10. IN A TALK THIS MORNING WITH AZIZ AHMED HE CONFIRMED BHUTTO'S REMARK WHILE INDICATING THAT WAHID ABDULLAH HAD STATED THEY COULD NOT CEASE WHAT HE CALLED "POLITICAL PROPAGANDA" OTHER THAN THAT WHICH WAS AD HOMINEN IN NATURE. AZIZ ALSO TOLD ME THAT THE AFGHANS HAD REQUESTED THAT THIS UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THEM BE KEPT ABSOLUTELY SECRET AND FOR THAT REASON THE PAKS WERE NOT GOING TO TELL ANYONE BUT ME ABOUT IT IN VIEW OF THE KNOWN INTEREST AND CONCERN IN WASHINGTON OVER THE STATE OF PAK-AFGHAN RELATIONS.

2. I TOLD BOTH BHUTTO AND AZIZ AHMED THAT I ATTACHED CONSIDERABLE IMPORTANCE TO THIS AGREEMENT, EVEN THOUGH LIMITED, AS IT SEEMED TO REVERSE THE TREND OF RECENT GENERAL DETERIORATING RELATIONS.

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